

GUBERNATORIAL SUCCESSION PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTIONS OF THE 50 STATES

Utah Constitutional Revision Commission

May 5, 2004

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State	Specified Circumstances	Succession Provisions
Alabama	"In case of the governor's removal from office, death or resignation" Alabama Const. art. V, sec. 127	"the lieutenant governor shall become governor" Alabama Const. art. V, sec. 127
	"In case of the impeachment of the governor, his absence from the state for more than twenty days, unsoundness of mind, or other disability" Alabama Const. art. V, sec. 127	"the power and authority of the office shall . . . devolve in the order herein named, upon the lieutenant governor, president pro tem. of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, and state treasurer" Alabama Const. art. V, sec. 127
Alaska	"In case of a vacancy in the office of governor for any reason" Alaska Const. art. III, sec. 11 (office deemed vacant if the "governor has been continuously absent from office [for 6 months] or has been unable to discharge the duties of his office by reason of mental or physical disability") Alaska Const. art. III, sec. 12	"the lieutenant governor shall succeed to the office for the remainder of the term" Alaska Const. art. III, sec. 11
	"in the event that the lieutenant governor is unable to succeed to the office or act as governor" Alaska Const. art. III, sec. 13	"Provision shall be made by law for succession to the office of governor and for an acting governor" Alaska Const. art. III, sec. 13
Arizona	"In the event of the death of the governor, or his resignation, removal from office, or permanent disability" Ariz. Const. art. V, sec. 6	"the secretary of state, if holding by election, shall succeed to the office of governor until his successor shall be elected and shall qualify" Ariz. Const. art. V, sec. 6
	"If the secretary of state be holding otherwise than by election, or shall fail to qualify as governor" Ariz. Const. art. V, sec. 6	"the attorney general, the state treasurer, or the superintendent of public instruction, if holding by election, shall, in the order named, succeed to the office of governor" Ariz. Const. art. V, sec. 6

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	<p>"In the event of the impeachment of the governor, his absence from the state, or other temporary disability . . . , Ariz. Const. art. V, sec. 6</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the office of governor shall devolve upon the same person as in the case of vacancy, but only until the disability ceases" Ariz. Const. art. V, sec. 6</p>
Arkansas	<p>"In case of the impeachment of the Governor, or his removal from office, death, inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, resignation or absence from the State" Ark. Const. Amendment 6, sec. 4</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the office, shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor for the residue of the term, or until the disability shall cease" Ark. Const. Amendment 6, sec. 4</p>
	<p>"If during a vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall be impeached, displaced, resign, die, or become incapable of performing the duties of his office or be absent from the State" Ark. Const. Amendment 6, sec. 5</p>	<p>"the President of the Senate [or, if the President becomes incapable of performing the duties of the office of Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly] shall act as Governor until the vacancy be filled or the disability shall cease" Ark. Const. Amendment 6, sec. 5</p>
California	<p>"when a vacancy occurs in the office of Governor" Cal. Const. art. V, sec. 10</p>	<p>"The Lieutenant Governor shall become Governor" "The Legislature shall provide an order of precedence after the Lieutenant Governor for succession to the office of Governor" Cal. Const. art. V, sec. 10</p>
	<p>"during the impeachment, absence from the State, or other temporary disability of the Governor or of a Governor-elect who fails to take office" Cal. Const. art. V, sec. 10</p>	<p>"The Lieutenant Governor shall act as Governor" "The Legislature shall provide an order of precedence after the Lieutenant Governor for . . . the temporary exercise of the Governor's functions" Cal. Const. art. V, sec. 10</p>
Colorado	<p>"In the case of the death, impeachment, conviction of a felony, or resignation of the governor" Colo. Const. art. IV, sec. 13(2)</p>	<p>"the office of governor shall be vacant and the lieutenant governor shall take the oath of office and shall become governor" Colo. Const. art. IV, sec. 13(2)</p>
	<p>"In the event that the offices of both the governor and lieutenant governor are vacant at the same time" Colo. Const. art. IV, sec. 13(7)</p>	<p>"the successor to fill the vacancy in the office of governor shall be the first named of the following members of the general assembly who is affiliated with the same political party as the governor:" senate president, speaker of the house, senate minority leader, house minority leader Colo. Const. art. IV, sec. 13(7)</p>
	<p>"In the event the governor . . . is absent from the state or is suffering from a physical or mental disability" Colo. Const. art. IV, sec. 13(5)</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the office of governor . . . shall, until the absence or disability ceases, temporarily devolve upon the lieutenant governor" Colo. Const. art. IV, sec. 13(5)</p>

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Connecticut	<p>"In case of the death, resignation, refusal to serve or removal from office of the governor"</p> <p>Conn. Const. art. IV, sec. 18</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall, upon taking the oath of office of governor, be governor of the state until another is chosen at the next regular election for governor and is duly qualified"</p> <p>Conn. Const. art. IV, sec. 18</p>
	<p>"In case of the inability of the governor to exercise the powers and perform the duties of his office, or in case of his impeachment or of his absence from the state"</p> <p>Conn. Const. art. IV, sec. 18</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall exercise the powers and authority and perform the duties appertaining to the office of governor until the disability is removed or, if the governor has been impeached, he is acquitted or, if absent, he has returned"</p> <p>Conn. Const. art. IV, sec. 18</p>
Delaware	<p>"in case of the removal of the Governor from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office"</p> <p>Del. Const. art. III, sec. 20(a)</p>	<p>"the same shall devolve on the Lieutenant-Governor"</p> <p>Del. Const. art. III, sec. 20(a)</p>
	<p>"in case of removal, death, resignation, or inability of both the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor"</p> <p>Del. Const. art. III, sec. 20(a)</p>	<p>"the Secretary of State, . . . then the Attorney General, . . . then the President pro tempore of the Senate, . . . then the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall act as Governor until the disability of the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor is removed, or a Governor shall be duly elected and qualified"</p> <p>Del. Const. art. III, sec. 20(a)</p>
	<p>if the Governor transmits a "written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office" or if the Governor is determined to be "unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office because of mental or physical disability"</p> <p>Del. Const. art. III, sec. 20(b)</p>	<p>the Lieutenant-Governor shall discharge or assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting Governor</p> <p>Del. Const. art. III, sec. 20(b)</p>
Florida	<p>"Upon vacancy in the office of governor"</p> <p>Fla. Const. art. IV, sec. 3</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall become governor"</p> <p>"Further succession to the office of governor shall be prescribed by law."</p> <p>Fla. Const. art. IV, sec. 3</p>
	<p>"Upon impeachment of the governor and until completion of trial thereof, or during the governor's physical or mental incapacity"</p> <p>Fla. Const. art. IV, sec. 3</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall act as governor"</p> <p>"Further succession as acting governor shall be prescribed by law."</p> <p>Fla. Const. art. IV, sec. 3</p>

State	Specified Circumstances	Succession Provisions
Georgia	<p>"In case of the death, resignation, or permanent disability of the Governor or the Governor-elect"</p> <p>Ga. Const. art. V, sec. I, para. V</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor or the Lieutenant Governor-elect, upon becoming the Lieutenant Governor, shall become the Governor until a successor shall be elected . . . at the next general election," and the successor serves for the unexpired term</p> <p>Ga. Const. art. V, sec. I, para. V</p>
	<p>"In case of the death, resignation, or permanent disability of both the Governor . . . and the Lieutenant Governor"</p> <p>Ga. Const. art. V, sec. 1, para. V</p>	<p>"the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall exercise the powers and duties of the Governor until the election and qualification of a Governor at a special election"</p> <p>Ga. Const. art. V, sec. 1, para. V</p>
	<p>"In case of the temporary disability of the Governor"</p> <p>Ga. Const. art. V, sec. I, para. V</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall exercise the powers and duties of the Governor . . . until such time as the temporary disability of the Governor ends"</p> <p>Ga. Const. art. V, sec. I, para. V</p>
Hawaii	<p>"When the office of governor is vacant"</p> <p>Hawaii Const. art. V, sec. 4</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall become governor"</p> <p>Hawaii Const. art. V, sec. 4</p>
	<p>"In the event of the absence of the governor from the State, or the governor's inability to exercise and discharge the powers and duties of the governor's office"</p> <p>Hawaii Const. art. V, sec. 4</p>	<p>"such powers and duties shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor during such absence or disability"</p> <p>Hawaii Const. art. V, sec. 4</p>
Idaho	<p>"In case of the failure to qualify, the impeachment, or conviction of treason, felony, or other infamous crime of the governor, or his death, removal from office, resignation, absence from the state, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of his office"</p> <p>Idaho Const. art. IV, sec. 12</p>	<p>"the powers, duties and emoluments for the residue of the term, or until the disability shall cease, shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor"</p> <p>Idaho Const. art. IV, sec. 12</p>
Illinois	<p>"In the event of a vacancy"</p> <p>Ill. Const. art. V, sec. 6</p>	<p>"the order of succession to the office of Governor or to the position of Acting Governor shall be the Lieutenant Governor, the elected Attorney General, the elected Secretary of State, and then as provided by law"</p> <p>Ill. Const. art. V, sec. 6</p>
	<p>if the "Governor determines that he may be seriously impeded in the exercise of his powers, he shall notify the Secretary of State and the officer next in line of succession"</p> <p>Ill. Const. art. V, sec. 6</p>	<p>the officer next in line of succession "shall thereafter become Acting Governor with the duties and powers of Governor"</p> <p>Ill. Const. art. V, sec. 6</p>

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Indiana	<p>"in case of the death or resignation of the Governor or his removal from office" Ind. Const. art. 5, sec. 10</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall become Governor and hold office for the unexpired term" Ind. Const. art. 5, sec. 10</p>
	<p>if "the Governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office" or if the Governor transmits a "written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office" Ind. Const. art. 5, sec. 10</p>	<p>the Lieutenant Governor shall discharge the powers and duties of the office as Acting Governor Ind. Const. art. 5, sec. 10</p>
Iowa	<p>"In the case of the death, impeachment, resignation, removal from office, or other disability of the governor" Iowa Const. art. IV, sec. 17</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the office for the residue of the term, or until [the governor] shall be acquitted, or the disability removed, shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor" Iowa Const. art. IV, sec. 17</p>
	<p>if there is a vacancy in the office of governor and the lieutenant governor is incapable of performing the duties of the office of governor Iowa Const. art. IV, sec. 19</p>	<p>"the president of the senate shall act as governor until the vacancy is filled or the disability removed" (then the speaker of the house, then the supreme court justices convene the general assembly which elects a governor and lieutenant governor in joint convention) Iowa Const. art. IV, sec. 19</p>
Kansas	<p>"When the office of governor is vacant" Kansas Const. art. 1, sec. 11</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall become governor" "The legislature shall provide by law for the succession to the office of governor should the offices of governor and lieutenant governor be vacant" Kansas Const. art. 1, sec. 11</p>
	<p>"In the event of the disability of the governor" Kansas Const. art. 1, sec. 11</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall assume the powers and duties of governor until the disability is removed" "The legislature shall provide by law . . . for the assumption of the powers and duties of governor during the disability of the governor, should the office of lieutenant governor be vacant or the lieutenant governor be disabled" Kansas Const. art. 1, sec. 11</p>

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Kentucky	<p>"Should the Governor be impeached and removed from office, die, refuse to qualify, resign, certify by entry on his Journal that he is unable to discharge the duties of his office, or be, from any cause, unable to discharge the duties of his office"</p> <p>Ky. Const. sec. 84</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall exercise all the power and authority appertaining to the office of Governor until another be duly elected and qualified, or the Governor shall be able to discharge the duties of his office"</p> <p>Ky. Const. sec. 84</p>
	<p>"If the Supreme Court determines . . . that the Governor is unable to discharge the duties of his office"</p> <p>Ky. Const. sec. 84</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall assume the duties of Governor, and shall act as Governor until the Supreme Court determines that the disability of the Governor has ceased to exist"</p> <p>Ky. Const. sec. 84</p>
Louisiana	<p>"When a vacancy occurs in the office of governor"</p> <p>La. Const. art. IV, sec. 14</p>	<p>"the order of succession shall be (1) the elected lieutenant governor, (2) the elected secretary of state, (3) the elected attorney general, (4) the elected treasurer, (5) the presiding officer of the Senate, (6) the presiding officer of the House of Representatives, and then (7) as provided by law. The successor shall serve the remainder of the term for which the governor was elected."</p> <p>La. Const. art. IV, sec. 14</p>
	<p>if the governor transmits a written declaration of his inability to discharge the powers and duties of his office or if the governor is determined to be unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office</p> <p>La. Const. art. IV, sec. 18</p>	<p>the person who under the constitution would succeed to the office when a vacancy occurs assumes the powers and duties of the office as acting official</p> <p>La. Const. art. IV, sec. 18</p>
Maine	<p>"Whenever the office of Governor shall become vacant because of the death, resignation or removal of a Governor in office, or any other cause"</p> <p>(office deemed vacant when for 6 months a governor has continuously been unable to discharge the powers and duties of office because of mental or physical disability)</p> <p>Maine Const. art. V, sec. 14</p>	<p>"the President of the Senate shall assume the office of Governor until another Governor shall be duly qualified"</p> <p>Maine Const. art. V, sec. 14</p>
	<p>"Whenever the Governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of that office because of mental or physical disability" or whenever "the Governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of that office" and so certifies to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court</p> <p>Maine Const. art. V, sec. 15</p>	<p>"the President of the Senate, or if that office is vacant, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall exercise the powers and duties of the office of Governor" until the disability no longer exists</p> <p>Maine Const. art. V, sec. 15</p>

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Maryland	<p>"When a vacancy occurs in the office of Governor"</p> <p>Maryland Const. art. 2, sec. 6</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall succeed to that office for the remainder of the term"</p> <p>Maryland Const. art. 2, sec. 6</p>
	<p>"If vacancies in the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor exist at the same time"</p> <p>Maryland Const. art. 2, sec. 6</p>	<p>the General Assembly in joint session chooses someone to fill the remainder of the term</p> <p>Maryland Const. art. 2, sec. 6</p>
	<p>if the Governor is temporarily unable to perform the duties of the office</p> <p>Maryland Const. art. 2, sec. 6</p>	<p>"The Lieutenant Governor shall serve as acting Governor" until notified that the Governor is able to resume the duties of the office or until the office becomes vacant</p> <p>Maryland Const. art. 2, sec. 6</p>
Massachusetts	<p>"Whenever the chair of the governor shall be vacant, by reason of his death, or absence from the commonwealth, or otherwise"</p> <p>Mass. Const. chap. II, sec. II, art. III</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor, for the time being, shall, during such vacancy, perform all the duties incumbent upon the governor, and shall have and exercise all the powers and authorities, which by this constitution the governor is vested with, when personally present"</p> <p>Mass. Const. chap. II, sec. II, art. III</p>
	<p>"Whenever the offices of governor and lieutenant-governor shall both be vacant, by reason of death, absence from the commonwealth, or otherwise"</p> <p>Mass. Const. Articles of Amendment, art. LV</p>	<p>"then one of the following officers, in the order of succession herein named, namely, the secretary, attorney-general, treasurer and receiver-general, and auditor, shall, during such vacancy, have full power and authority to do and execute all and every such acts, matters and things as the governor or the lieutenant-governor might or could lawfully do or execute"</p> <p>Mass. Const. Articles of Amendment, art. LV</p>
Michigan	<p>"In case of the conviction of the governor on impeachment, his removal from office, his resignation or his death"</p> <p>Mich. Const. art. V, sec. 26</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor, the elected secretary of state, the elected attorney general and such other persons designated by law shall in that order be governor for the remainder of the governor's term"</p> <p>Mich. Const. art. V, sec. 26</p>
	<p>"If the governor or the person in line of succession to serve as governor is absent from the state, or suffering under an inability"</p> <p>Mich. Const. art. V, sec. 26</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the office of the governor shall devolve in order or precedence until the absence or inability giving rise to the devolution of powers ceases"</p> <p>Mich. Const. art. V, sec. 26</p>

State	Specified Circumstances	Succession Provisions
Minnesota	<p>"In case a vacancy occurs from any cause whatever in the office of governor" Minn. Const. art. V, sec. 5</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall be governor during such vacancy" Minn. Const. art. V, sec. 5</p>
	<p>"In case the governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office" Minn. Const. art. V, sec. 5</p>	<p>"the same devolves on the lieutenant governor" Minn. Const. art. V, sec. 5</p>
Mississippi	<p>"When the office of Governor shall become vacant, by death or otherwise" Miss. Const. art 5, sec. 131</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall possess the powers and discharge the duties of the office" Miss. Const. art 5, sec. 131</p>
	<p>"When the Governor shall be absent from the state, or unable, from protracted illness, to perform the duties of the office" Miss. Const. art 5, sec. 131</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall discharge the duties of said office until the Governor be able to resume his duties" if lieutenant governor incapable or absent, then the President of the Senate Pro Tempore and then the Speaker of the House of Representatives Miss. Const. art 5, sec. 131</p>
Missouri	<p>"On the death, conviction or impeachment, or resignation of the governor" Missouri Const. art. IV, sec.11(a)</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall become governor for the remainder of the term" Missouri Const. art. IV, sec.11(a)</p>
	<p>"On the failure to qualify, absence from the state or other disability of the governor" Missouri Const. art. IV, sec.11(a)</p>	<p>"the powers, duties and emoluments of the governor shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor for the remainder of the term or until the disability is removed" Missouri Const. art. IV, sec.11(a)</p>
	<p>if governor or disability board provide written declaration that the governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office Missouri Const. art. IV, sec.11(b)</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor, or if there be no lieutenant governor, the president pro tempore of the senate, the speaker of the house, the secretary of state, the state auditor, the state treasurer or the attorney general in succession" shall assume the powers and duties of the office "as acting governor" Missouri Const. art. IV, sec.11(b)</p>

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Montana	<p>"If the office of governor becomes vacant by reason of death, resignation, or disqualification"</p> <p>Mont. Const. art. VI, sec. 14</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall become governor for the remainder of the term"</p> <p>"additional succession to fill vacancies shall be provided by law"</p> <p>Mont. Const. art. VI, sec. 14</p>
	<p>if the governor requests, if the "governor is so disabled as to be unable to communicate . . . the fact of his inability to perform the duties of his office," or if the lieutenant governor and attorney general transmit to the legislature their determination that the governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office and 2/3 of the legislature agree</p> <p>Mont. Const. art. VI, sec. 14</p>	<p>the lieutenant governor shall serve as acting governor</p> <p>Mont. Const. art. VI, sec. 14</p>
Nebraska	<p>"In case of the conviction of the Governor on impeachment, his removal from office, his resignation or his death"</p> <p>Neb. Const. art. IV, sec. 16</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the Legislature and such other persons designated by law shall in that order be Governor for the remainder of the Governor's term"</p> <p>Neb. Const. art. IV, sec. 16</p>
	<p>"If the Governor or the person in line of succession to serve as Governor is absent from the state, or suffering under an inability"</p> <p>Neb. Const. art. IV, sec. 16</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the office of Governor shall devolve in order of precedence until the absence or inability giving rise to the devolution of powers ceases"</p> <p>Neb. Const. art. IV, sec. 16</p>
Nevada	<p>"In case of the impeachment of the Governor, or his removal from Office, death, inability to discharge the duties of the said Office, resignation or absence from the State"</p> <p>Nev. Const. art. 5, sec. 18</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the Office shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor for the residue of the term, or until the disability shall cease"</p> <p>Nev. Const. art. 5, sec. 18</p>
	<p>"If during a Vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall be impeached, displaced, resign, die, or become incapable of performing the duties of the office, or be absent from the State"</p> <p>Nev. Const. art. 5, sec. 17</p>	<p>"the President <i>pro-tempore</i> of the Senate shall act as Governor until the vacancy be filled or the disability cease"</p> <p>Nev. Const. art. 5, sec. 17</p>

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New Hampshire	<p>"In the event of the death, resignation, removal from office, failure to qualify, physical or mental incapacity, absence from the state, or other incapacity of the governor"</p> <p>New Hampshire Const. art. 49</p>	<p>"the president of the senate, for the time being, shall act as governor until the vacancy is filled or the incapacity is removed"</p> <p>then the speaker of the house, secretary of state, state treasurer, "each of whom, in that order, shall act as governor . . . until the vacancy is filled or the incapacity removed"</p> <p>New Hampshire Const. art. 49</p>
	<p>if the governor transmits a "written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office by reason of physical or mental incapacity" or if the governor is judicially determined to be incapacitated</p> <p>New Hampshire Const. art. 49-A</p>	<p>"the president of the senate for the time being, shall act as governor" subject to the succession provisions of article 49</p> <p>New Hampshire Const. art. 49-A</p>
New Jersey	<p>"In the event of a vacancy in the office of Governor"</p> <p>New Jersey Const. art. V, sec. 9</p>	<p>"a Governor shall be elected to fill the unexpired term at the general election next succeeding the vacancy" unless the election is within 60 days of the vacancy or the election is one at which a governor is elected for a full term</p> <p>New Jersey Const. art. V, sec. 9</p>
	<p>"In the event of a vacancy in the office of Governor resulting from the death, resignation or removal of a Governor in office, or the death of a Governor-elect, or from any other cause"</p> <p>New Jersey Const. art. V, sec. 6</p>	<p>"the functions, powers, duties, and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the President of the Senate, for the time being," and then on the Speaker of the General Assembly, and "then upon such officers and in such order of succession as may be provided by law; until a new Governor shall be elected and qualify"</p> <p>New Jersey Const. art. V, sec. 6</p>
	<p>in the event of "the absence from the State of a Governor in office, or his inability to discharge the duties of his office, or his impeachment"</p> <p>New Jersey Const. art. V, sec. 7</p>	<p>"the functions, powers, duties and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the President of the Senate, for the time being . . . until the . . . Governor in office shall return to the State, or shall no longer be unable to discharge the duties of the office, or shall be acquitted, as the case may be, or until a new Governor shall be elected and qualify"</p> <p>(same succession after the President of the Senate in the event of the President's "death, resignation, removal, absence, inability or impeachment")</p> <p>New Jersey Const. art. V, sec. 7</p>

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New Mexico	if "a vacancy occurs in the office of governor" New Mexico Const. art. V, sec. 7	"the lieutenant governor shall succeed to that office, and to all the powers, duties and emoluments thereof" New Mexico Const. art. V, sec. 7
	"In case the governor is absent from the state, or is for any reason unable to perform his duties" New Mexico Const. art. V, sec. 7	"the lieutenant governor shall act as governor, with all the powers, duties and emoluments of that office until such disability be removed" if there is no lieutenant governor is if the lieutenant governor is unable to perform the duties of governor, the order of succession is the secretary of state, president pro tempore of the senate, and speaker of the house New Mexico Const. art. V, sec. 7
New York	"In case of the removal of the governor from office or of his or her death or resignation" New York Const. art. IV, sec. 5	"the lieutenant-governor shall become governor for the remainder of the term" New York Const. art. IV, sec. 5
	"In case the governor is impeached, is absent from the state or is otherwise unable to discharge the powers and duties of the office of governor" New York Const. art. IV, sec. 5	"the lieutenant-governor shall act as governor until the inability shall cease or until the term of the governor shall expire" New York Const. art. IV, sec. 5
North Carolina	"upon the death, resignation, or removal from office of the Governor" North Carolina Const. art. III, sec. 3	"The Lieutenant Governor shall become Governor" "The further order of succession to the office of Governor shall be prescribed by law" North Carolina Const. art. III, sec. 3
	"During the absence of the Governor from the State, or during the physical or mental incapacity of the Governor to perform the duties of his office" North Carolina Const. art. III, sec. 3	"the Lieutenant Governor shall be Acting Governor" "The further order of succession as Acting Governor shall be prescribed by law" North Carolina Const. art. III, sec. 3
North Dakota	"when a vacancy occurs in the office of governor" North Dakota Const. art. V, sec. 11	"The lieutenant governor shall succeed to the office of governor" North Dakota Const. art. V, sec. 11
	"If, during a vacancy in the office of governor, the lieutenant governor is unable to serve" North Dakota Const. art. V, sec. 11	"the secretary of state shall act as governor until the vacancy is filled or the disability removed" North Dakota Const. art. V, sec. 11

State	Specified Circumstances	Succession Provisions
Ohio	<p>"In the case of the death, conviction on impeachment, resignation, or removal, of the Governor"</p> <p>Ohio Const. art. 3, sec. 15</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall succeed to the office of Governor"</p> <p>(line of succession after Lieutenant Governor is President of the senate and then Speaker of the House of Representatives)</p> <p>Ohio Const. art. 3, sec. 15</p>
	<p>"When the Governor is unable to discharge the duties of office by reason of disability"</p> <p>Ohio Const. art. 3, sec. 15</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall serve as governor until the Governor's disability terminates"</p> <p>(line of succession after Lieutenant Governor is President of the senate and then Speaker of the House of Representatives)</p> <p>Ohio Const. art. 3, sec. 15</p>
Oklahoma	<p>"In case of impeachment of the Governor, or of his death, failure to qualify, resignation, removal from the State, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the office"</p> <p>Okla. Const. art. VI, sec. 16</p>	<p>"the said office, with its compensation, shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor for the residue of the term or until the disability shall be removed"</p> <p>Okla. Const. art. VI, sec. 16</p>
	<p>"If, during a vacancy of the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall be impeached, displaced, resign, die or be absent from the State, or become incapable of performing the duties of the office"</p> <p>Okla. Const. art. VI, sec. 15</p>	<p>"the president, pro tempore, of the Senate, shall act as Governor until the vacancy be filled or the disability shall cease," and then the Speaker of the House, and further "provisions for succession to the office of Governor shall be prescribed by law"</p> <p>Okla. Const. art. VI, sec. 15</p>
Oregon	<p>"In case of the removal from office of the Governor, or of his death, resignation, or disability to discharge the duties of his office"</p> <p>Ore. Const. art. V, sec. 8a</p>	<p>"the Secretary of State; or if there be none, or in case of his removal from office, death, resignation, or disability to discharge the duties of his office . . . , then the State treasurer; . . . then the President of the Senate; . . . then the speaker of the House of Representatives, shall become Governor until the disability be removed or a Governor be elected at the next general biennial election"</p> <p>Ore. Const. art. V, sec. 8a</p>
Pennsylvania	<p>"In the case of the death, conviction on impeachment, failure to qualify or resignation of the Governor"</p> <p>Penn. Const. art. IV, sec. 13</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor[, and, if there is none, then the President pro tempore of the Senate,] shall become Governor for the remainder of the term"</p> <p>Penn. Const. art. IV, sec. 13</p>
	<p>"in the case of the disability of the Governor"</p> <p>Penn. Const. art. IV, sec. 14</p>	<p>"the powers, duties and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor[, or, if there is none, then upon the President pro tempore of the Senate,] until the disability is removed"</p> <p>Penn. Const. art. IV, sec. 14</p>

State	Specified Circumstances	Succession Provisions
Rhode Island	<p>"If the office of the governor shall be vacant by reason of death, resignation, impeachment or inability to serve"</p> <p>Rhode Island Const. art. IX, sec. 9</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall fill the office of governor, and exercise the powers and authority appertaining thereto, until a governor is qualified to act, or until the office is filled at the next election"</p> <p>Rhode Island Const. art. IX, sec. 9</p>
	<p>"If the offices of governor and lieutenant governor be both vacant by reason of death, resignation, impeachment, or inability to serve"</p> <p>Rhode Island Const. art. IX, sec. 10</p>	<p>"the speaker of the house of representatives shall in like manner fill the office of governor during such vacancy"</p> <p>Rhode Island Const. art. IX, sec. 10</p>
South Carolina	<p>"In the case of the removal of the Governor from office by impeachment, death, resignation, disqualification, disability, or removal from the State"</p> <p>South Carolina Const. art. IV, sec. 11</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall be Governor"</p> <p>South Carolina Const. art. IV, sec. 11</p>
	<p>"In case the Governor be impeached"</p> <p>South Carolina Const. art. IV, sec. 11</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall act in his stead and have his powers until judgment in the case shall have been pronounced"</p> <p>South Carolina Const. art. IV, sec. 11</p>
	<p>"In the case of the temporary disability of the Governor and in the event of the temporary absence of the Governor from the State"</p> <p>South Carolina Const. art. IV, sec. 11</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall have full authority to act in an emergency"</p> <p>South Carolina Const. art. IV, sec. 11</p>
	<p>if the Governor or "a majority of the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, the Comptroller General and the State Treasurer, or of such other body as the General Assembly may provide," submits a "written declaration that the Governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office"</p> <p>South Carolina Const. art. IV, sec. 12</p>	<p>the Lieutenant Governor assumes the powers and duties of the office as acting Governor</p> <p>South Carolina Const. art. IV, sec. 12</p>

State	Specified Circumstances	Succession Provisions
South Dakota	<p>"When the office of Governor shall become vacant through death, resignation, failure to qualify, conviction after impeachment or permanent disability of the Governor" South Dakota Const. art. IV, sec. 6</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor shall succeed to the office and powers of the Governor" South Dakota Const. art. IV, sec. 6</p>
	<p>"When the Governor is unable to serve by reason of continuous absence from the state, or other temporary disability" South Dakota Const. art. IV, sec. 6</p>	<p>"the executive power shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor for the residue of the term or until the disability is removed" South Dakota Const. art. IV, sec. 6</p>
	<p>"Whenever there is a concurrent vacancy in the office of Governor and lieutenant governor" South Dakota Const. art. IV, sec. 6</p>	<p>"the order of succession for the office of Governor shall be as provided by law" South Dakota Const. art. IV, sec. 6</p>
Tennessee	<p>"In case of the removal of the governor from office, or of his death, or resignation" Tenn. Const. art. III, sec. 12</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the office shall devolve on the speaker of the Senate" and then to "the speaker of the House of Representatives" "One succeeding to the office vacated during the first eighteen calendar months of the term shall hold office until a successor is elected" at the next general election. One succeeding to the office after the first 18 months "shall continue to hold office for the remainder of the full term." Tenn. Const. art. III, sec. 4 & 12</p>
Texas	<p>"If the Governor refuses to serve or becomes permanently unable to serve, or if the office of Governor becomes vacant" Tex. Const. art. 4, sec. 16(d)</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor becomes governor for the remainder of the term being served by the Governor who refused or became unable to serve or vacated the office" Tex. Const. art. 4, sec. 16(d)</p>
	<p>"In the case of the temporary inability or temporary disqualification of the Governor to serve, the impeachment of the Governor, or the absence of the Governor from the State" Tex. Const. art. 4, sec. 16(c)</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall exercise the powers and authority appertaining to the office of Governor until the Governor becomes able or qualified to resume serving, is acquitted, or returns to the State" (then the President pro tempore of the Senate) Tex. Const. art. 4, sec. 16(c)</p>
	<p>"If, while exercising the powers and authority appertaining to the office of Governor . . . , the Lieutenant Governor becomes temporarily unable or disqualified to serve, is impeached, or is absent from the State" Tex. Const. art. 4, sec. 17(a)</p>	<p>"the President pro tempore of the Senate, for the time being, shall exercise the powers and authority appertaining to the office of Governor until the Governor or Lieutenant Governor reassumes those powers and duties" Tex. Const. art. 4, sec. 17(a)</p>

State	Specified Circumstances	Succession Provisions
Utah	<p>"In case of the death of the Governor, impeachment, removal from office, resignation, or disability to discharge the duties of the office" Utah Const. art. VII, sec. 11</p>	<p>"the powers and duties of the Governor shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor until the disability ceases or until the next general election, when the vacancy shall be filled by election" Utah Const. art. VII, sec. 11</p>
	<p>"If, during a vacancy in the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor resigns, dies, is removed, or becomes incapable of performing the duties of the office" Utah Const. art. VII, sec. 11</p>	<p>"the President of the Senate [and then the Speaker of the House] shall act as Governor until the vacancy is filled or disability ceases" Utah Const. art. VII, sec. 11</p>
Vermont	<p>"The Supreme Executive power shall be exercised by a Governor, or in the Governor's absence, a Lieutenant-Governor." Vermont Const. sec. 3</p>	
	<p>"whenever there shall be a vacancy in both the offices of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, occasioned by a failure to elect, or by the removal from office, or by the death or resignation of both Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, or by the inability of both Governor and Lieutenant-Governor to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of Governor" Vermont Const. sec. 24</p>	<p>"The Legislature shall provide by general law what officer shall act as Governor" Vermont Const. sec. 24</p>
Virginia	<p>"In the case of the removal of the Governor from office or in the case of his disqualification, death, or resignation" or if, following a declaration of the Governor's inability and the Governor's subsequent declaration that no inability exists, "the General Assembly determines by three-fourths vote . . . that the Governor is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office" Va. Const. art. V, sec. 16</p>	<p>"the Lieutenant Governor shall become Governor" Va. Const. art. V, sec. 16</p>
	<p>if the Governor or the Attorney General, President pro tempore of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Delegates or a majority of the total membership of the General Assembly transmit a declaration that the Governor is "unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office" Va. Const. art. V, sec. 16</p>	<p>the Lieutenant Governor assumes the powers and duties of the office as Acting Governor Va. Const. art. V, sec. 16</p>

State	Specified Circumstances	Succession Provisions
Washington	<p>"In case of the removal, resignation, death or disability of the governor" Wash. Const. art. III, sec. 10</p>	<p>"the duties of the office shall devolve upon the lieutenant governor" Wash. Const. art. III, sec. 10</p>
	<p>"in case of a vacancy in both the offices of governor and lieutenant governor" Wash. Const. art. III, sec. 10</p>	<p>the duties of the governor shall devolve upon the secretary of state" and then, "in the order named," upon the "Treasurer, auditor, attorney general, superintendent of public instruction and commissioner of public lands . . . until the disability be removed, or a governor be elected [at the next general election] and qualified" Wash. Const. art. III, sec. 10</p>
West Virginia	<p>"In case of the death, conviction or impeachment, failure to qualify, resignation, or other disability of the governor" West Va. Const. art. VII, sec. 7-16</p>	<p>"the president of the Senate shall act as governor until the vacancy is filled [by an election, if the vacancy occurs before the first three years of the term have expired], or the disability removed" West Va. Const. art. VII, sec. 7-16</p>
	<p>"if the president of the Senate . . . shall become incapable of performing the duties of governor" West Va. Const. art. VII, sec. 7-16</p>	<p>"the same shall devolve upon the speaker of the House of Delegates" and then upon one "chosen by joint vote of the Legislature" West Va. Const. art. VII, sec. 7-16</p>
Wisconsin	<p>"Upon the governor's death, resignation or removal from office" Wisc. Const. art. V, sec. 7</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor [or, if there is a vacancy in the office of lieutenant governor, the secretary of state] shall become governor for the balance of the unexpired term" Wisc. Const. art. V, sec. 7 & 8</p>
	<p>"If the governor is absent from this state, impeached, or from mental or physical disease, becomes incapable of performing the duties of the office" Wisc. Const. art. V, sec. 7</p>	<p>"the lieutenant governor [or, if there is a vacancy in the office of lieutenant governor, the secretary of state] shall serve as acting governor for the balance of the unexpired term or until the governor returns, the disability ceases or the impeachment is vacated" Wisc. Const. art. V, sec. 7 & 8</p>
Wyoming	<p>"If the governor be impeached, displaced, resign or die, or from mental or physical disease or otherwise become incapable of performing the duties of his office or be absent from the state" Wyo. Const. art. IV, sec. 6</p>	<p>"the secretary of state shall act as governor until the vacancy is filled or the disability removed" Wyo. Const. art. IV, sec. 6</p>